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THE UNION TIMES.

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VOL. LII. NO. 49.

UNION, SOUTH CAROLINA, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1902.

\$1.00 A YEAR.

CAROLINA'S SONS IN TEXAS.

More About The Settlers Around the Famous Hunter's Bend. The McEitchens, the Adairs, Baileys and Others, All From South Carolina.

SPARTANBURG AND UNION REPRESENTED.

Denver, Colo., Nov. 27, 1902.
JNO. R. MATHIS, Esq., Union, S. C.
Dear Friend:—Your valuable paper gets here alright, though not as swift as a few issues of previous date had done, but the address is correct, (thank you.)

I beg pardon for having to intrude upon your valuable space to state that you make me say in my last letter Miss Ada Duckett when it should have been Miss Ida Duckett. Also you make me say Coldville, S. C. when it should be Goldville, S. C.

I was very sorry to hear of the untimely death of Mrs. Sam Duckett. As the correspondent from Goshen Hill stating the sad event was the first I had heard of her death. It is indeed the most sad lot of our lives to lose a fond mother, surrounded by her loving and dutiful children. It might not be so hard to bear if all the children were grown and married or had homes of their own, but the writer believes he has experienced the saddest of all separations from the love and care of a fond mother by the cruel monster death, and for this reason sincerely sympathizes with all who are called to pass under the rod of affliction at an early age, and while the kiss of a mother's lips is still warm on the innocent brow. The writer has known that family from earliest childhood, in fact nearly all his life, and during all that time they have proved themselves to be one of the best of the land, and Mrs. Duckett was one of the most quiet, gentle, thoughtful and kind-hearted ladies that it has ever been his pleasure to meet.

Rest on, rest on in peaceful rest,
Eternal life God gave,
There is a hope that all may have
We shall meet beyond the grave.

Well I will try to tell a little more about Carolina's sons and daughters around Hunter's Bend, but first I will beg pardon for not having gathered notes from the lives of these interesting, progressive and friendly people, but the season of the year when I was there was their busiest time and I had only a very limited chance to get acquainted with them, but they will stop the plow long enough to talk a few minutes with a man from old South Carolina, and if he comes recommended they will invite him to their house and treat him like a king. I mean as much as a king as it has ever been the pleasure of your humble scribe to participate in or to have knowledge of according to his humble opinion. The old gent, Mr. Hunter, was a very talkative and friendly man, also his son Dr. John Hunter, and his daughter, Mrs. Littlepage, she made special request that I should call on them at their home and I regret that my time was so limited that I could not avail myself of the pleasure, but the one of most interest to me in the Hunter family was the youngest son, Jim. He was an exception for sociability and friendship. I have met very few people in my life who were easier to get acquainted with than was Jim Hunter. Then there are two families of the McEitchens, usually pronounced McEichen, they are from Marlboro county, S. C. They came to Travis county, Texas, more than thirty years ago and have reared their families in Texas. Some of the children are grown and married, they have paid many visits to S. C. and have taken most of their children back there on visits at various times and the children seem to have that same paternal love for old Carolina that their parents possess. Neil McEichen has a very nice little farm on the border of Hunter's Bend, the land is not so rich as on the bottom, though it is as fertile as need be when there are ordinary seasons, as he can raise all he can gather; the land is practically level and runs to Becker Branch, and the church by the name was built on land he gave for the purpose; he has a nice house, makes a good living and seems to be happy, except he has asthma at times very bad. He has five children nearly all grown, Duncan, Ruth, Jesse, Bessie and Neil Jr. Jim

married about two years ago a Miss Sarah King, though they all live at the old home and seem well contented. Mangus McEichen has several small farms, though some run high up the bluffs or foot hills and are covered with mosquito brush, prickly pears, rattle snakes, horned toads and cotton tail rabbits, and is only used for pasture land, but some is very good land. He also has a good country store with a large stock and a good trade, and has a nice house close to his store. His store was once the post office of Dunlap until the Rural Route abolished the office. He only has one child, a girl nearly grown. He has some cattle and makes considerable money. Both these brothers are enthusiastic members of the Decker Branch church.

Then there is the Adair family from near Goldville, S. C. J. I. Adair is a brother of Tom, most of the Laurens county people know him as Tom Bully Adair, as he used to be quite a pugilist when I was a boy. Tom still lives near Goldville and I spent a very pleasant time with him when visiting Carolina little over a year ago, but his family came to Texas about fifteen years ago and the children are all grown and many are married. There are so many girls that I can't remember their names, however one of them married Gus Copeland, from Clinton, S. C., and he is foreman for J. N. Littlepage on a large farm south of Hunter's Bend. Mattie married John Flow, who was born and reared in Hunter's Bend. John's father says he has been in that bend for forty years and he never believed it was worth anything until the price got so high and land so scarce that he could not get even a garden tract, and it is a fact he has spent all his life and strength amid these rare opportunities and has saved nothing. He is a man of the utmost integrity and of the highest honor, but is very feeble, in fact is helpless. John Flow works in Littlepage's store in the Bend. I did not see all the Adair girls, but there are Camilla, Tense and Jessie who are single. There are only two boys, Gus is night watchman in the hospital at the Confederate Home, and J. I. lives on the farm with his father and sisters about 14 miles north of Hunter's Bend. They have just moved there from the Bend. They are now on the black waxy land and say they like it fine, except in wet weather, and they have had very little of the latter since they went out there.

There is Wm. Verden also from Goldville, S. C. He works for wages on the place with Gus Copeland. He is an old bachelor but is putting on all kinds of style out there with his new rubber tired buggy. says he thinks sometimes he may go back to old S. C. There is J. H. Bailey who went with Wm. Verden to Texas about ten years ago, though he was from Union county. J. H. Bailey married about four years ago a Miss Fannie W. Brown. J. H. has lived in this Bend ever since he went to Texas, except a few months he worked in Austin. He has saved up a few hundred dollars and seems to like Texas fine. The Brown family were from Virginia and I consider them one of the most reliable, trustworthy and sociable families that it was my pleasure to meet, though they have not amassed fortunes as many others have, still they have good homes and make a good living.

Then there is Joseph J. Bailey from Union county, who has been out there four years. He has tried various kinds of employment such as farming, dairying and working on the public highways, but they seemed too slow for him. He was a nurse in the hospital at the Confederate Home when I left Texas.

Last but not least, old Uncle Davy Jones, as he is familiarly known all over that part of Texas. He is from Spartanburg county, S. C., and has been out there more than forty years. He is a very slender, tall, wiry looking old gent, of more than seventy years and he gets acquainted with anybody who goes along the Webberville and Austin pike road. He settled on the edge of the Hunter Bend, right close to the steep hill. He has a fine farm very fertile, though more drouthy than the famous bottoms, he has more land on the hills than in the bottom or as it is called out there second bot-

tem. He has quite a lot of timber on his hills with cacti, rabbits, rocks and snakes. He is a great talker and is liked by all, though he has some very peculiar ideas he never lets them interfere with others. Your humble scribe had the pleasure of making his and his good lady's acquaintance without any ceremony simply by passing along the highway. He had a brother from Spartanburg to visit him during the Dallas reunion.

I will try to tell you something of the dark side in my next letter. With best wishes for THE TIMES and its readers I bid you adieu.
W. G. BAILEY.

ANOTHER TEXAS LETTER.

Something More of That Black, Sticky and Rain in Abundance. Crop Prospects Rather Gloomy Failures Looked For.

ENORMOUS REVENUE FROM TEXAS.

Bonham, Tex., Nov. 27, 1902.
EDITOR TIMES:

The weather here is the rainiest in years at this season; and it is unusually warm. As I write all vegetation is green with no immediate prospect of frost. There is young corn growing in various places. A farmer told me last week down at Bailey he had corn silking and tasseling at the time. Great quantities of rain have fallen during the last 15 days flooding the whole country, and damaging the crops, corn, cotton and all growing crops. There is some corn not yet gathered which will rot very fast, especially where it falls to the ground, and, possibly, you may have some idea how difficult it would be to haul through the mud in the black waxy land if it were suitable weather for gathering corn overhead. The cotton crop was very short in this section of the State, this year, caused by the destructive boll worms, then the constant wet weather coming on both rotting it and stopping the maturing of the late bolls or top crop has played havoc with the yield for 1902. In short we are gathering less cotton this time than for many years. The country was pretty well drained of money to buy feed to make the crop for this year. Added to this the short crop and continued wet weather have almost put a stop to business. There is less doing in the line of merchandise trading than I have ever observed since coming to this State nineteen years ago. People on the black land cannot come to town in wagons, for in attempting to do so they would stick fast in the mud with their vehicles; they can come on horse back or on foot until the roads dry sufficiently to drive over them. As a consequence the merchants are having hard luck in business affairs. Most of the merchants here do business in such a tense strain, caused by the credit system and a speculation mania, that when a time like the present one comes, not many are prepared for it, and as a result many failures among merchants follow. This winter will not be an exception on that score, so we will have many and perhaps some heavy failures; in fact they have commenced already. It seems that if a little more caution and cool judgment were used in business matters, the country over, the results would possibly be better.

RISE IN THE PRICE OF LAND.

In the face of the fact that this part of Texas has suffered from the effect of two short crops in succession, lands have gradually gone higher each year for three years. Black land that three years ago would have sold for thirty-five to forty dollars per acre, this winter will sell for anywhere from sixty to seventy-five dollars. Some lands are even higher. One gentleman near Hickory Grove in the upper edge of Hunt county 17 miles southeast of Bonham was offered thirty thousand dollars for three hundred acres early in the summer and refused to sell at the price. Speaking of the rapid rise in the price of land forcibly reminds the writer of the skyward tendency in that direction, listen one moment and he will give you a bit of his experience on that score: One year ago on the first day of the present month, he sold a small farm, receiving therefor fifty dollars per acre, which was a good round price, but

the owner about 10 months after buying it refused a price of seventy-five dollars per acre, that is to say, one half as much again as he paid for it less than a year before.

TERRITORY ALLOTMENT.

I am also reminded that the lands in the Indian Territory will soon be opened and it is very reasonable to suppose will be a fine field for speculation for the next five to ten years; not only that but many men with small means may be able to procure good homes in the "Happy Hunting Grounds" of the Choctaw Indians. The allotment is to commence in February next and continue until completed. As soon as the allotments are made and the deeds executed the Indians can sell $\frac{1}{4}$ of the lands to purchasers and make good title to same, which most of them will proceed to do at once, in order to get hold of the money to be realized out of their lands.

TEXAS SCHOOL FUND.

It is a fact that so many people pride themselves upon a fine showing in almost anything. Fine showings are usually creditable to the agents of the enterprises or means producing splendid acquisitions. It has seemed to me all along that the average Texan makes it a point to boast about the enormous school fund, and the big school fund is all right. If the men who are empowered to do so would only take more pains to employ teachers whose qualifications comported better with the salaries paid them. I am sure the standard of Texan education would rise higher than at present. A recent statement of the school fund shows an asset of forty-five million seventy-one thousand eight hundred seventy-six dollars, (\$45,071,876). A sum hard for little minds to comprehend. Here are the total taxable values of Texas for the year 1902: One billion seventeen million five hundred and seventy-one thousand seven hundred and thirty-two dollars, (\$1,017,571,732.) The following 20 counties render over ten million each for taxation: Harris, 37; Dallas, 36; Bexar, 34; (San Antonio) McLennan, 23; (Waco) Galveston, 22; Tarrant, 21; (Fort Worth) Grayson, 20; (Denison and Sherman) Ellis, 16; Jefferson, 16; (Beaumont) Travis, 15; (Austin) El Paso, 14; Williamson, 14; Navarro, 14; Bell, 13; Collin, 13; Lamar, 12; Fannin, 12; Hill, 11; Hent, 11; and Kaufman, 11; millions. These figures represent just about one third of the actual value of the property thus rendered. This is not said in a spirit of criticism, for if a rendition of 33 1/3 per cent. of the value of all the property at the present rate furnishes enough revenue to defray the expenses of the government that is burden enough upon the taxpayers.
J. S. C.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

Congress Opens But Adjourns Out of Respect for Deceased Members.

(From Our Regular Correspondent.)

Washington, D. C., Dec. 1, 1902. Precisely at noon today the gravels of Pres. pro tem., Frye in the Senate and of Speaker Henderson in the House of Representatives fell and so inaugurated the second and last session of the Fifty-seventh Congress. While there were cordial congratulations, hosts of fair women in the galleries, and an abundance of flowers in the chambers and lobbies, there was also a note of sadness observable. In the Senate the handsome mahogany desk of Senator McMillan was draped in crepe and laden with flowers and in the House the desk formerly occupied by Representative Russell of Connecticut and those of Representatives de Graffenreid and Sheppard of Texas were similarly treated.

In addition to the statesmen removed by death there were twenty-five men in the lower chamber who were defeated for re-election, and, therefore, condolences mingled with congratulations. Many members crowded about the Speaker's desk expressing their regret that this was the last time he would call the session to order, and another group gathered about Representative Cannon congratulating him upon having virtually won the highest expression of confidence and the highest honor

the House can confer. No business was transacted in either chamber today, beyond the swearing in of General Alger in the Senate to succeed the late Senator McMillan. A quiet but heartfelt ovation was given to the Ex-Secretary of War, whose friends believe he was a martyr to unreasonable prejudice on the part of a people flushed and excited with military victory but suffering from the trials and bereavements which the most successful war must leave in its wake.

As soon as General Alger had taken the oath of office, Senator Burrows moved that the Senate adjourn as a mark of respect to the memory of his deceased colleague. Immediate adjournment was then taken and the Senate will meet at noon tomorrow and receive the annual message of the President. In the House a similar course was followed, adjournment being taken out of respect to the memory of the late Representative Russell and other deceased members.

"There will be no tariff legislation this session," said Senator Frye, president of the Senate, today, in answer to an inquiry from your correspondent. "There will be neither time nor inclination in upper chamber for tariff amendment. The regular appropriation bills, anti-trust legislation and probably some treaties will be considered but that is all. I regard it as extremely probable that Congress will amend the existing anti-trust law in accordance with the recommendations of the Attorney General. I can see no possible objection to such a course; the legislation would be of a simple character and should require but little time." Senator Frye also expressed an earnest desire to see the Ship Subsidy bill enacted into law.

The first business which will occupy the attention of the Senate will be the report of Territorial Committee which is to be made on the 3rd. Senator Beveridge, when seen today, said it would be improper for him to indicate through the columns of the press the tenure of his report, but it is regarded as most likely that it will not be favorable to the admission of the three territories which are applicants for statehood. It is regarded as reasonably certain that Oklahoma would return two Republican Senators, and two Republican votes to the Electoral College, so that the sentiment in favor of admitting the latter is strong and many there are who would like to see Oklahoma alone admitted. On the other hand, the Democrats are unanimous in favor of admitting all three territories and, as it was the unanimity with which the Democrats supported the bill in the House that secured its passage through that chamber, it is regarded as doubtful if the friends of the territories will consent to discrimination.

One of the first measures to the consideration of both Senate and House will be the anti-anarchy bill which was left in conference when Congress adjourned in July. It is generally believed that it will pass with little difficulty. There are a number of Democrats who oppose the measure as passed for the reason that they fear its provisions may be perverted from their purpose and used as a means of persecution, but as the Republican majority is strong it is not believed that the Democratic fears will receive much consideration.

Representative Fowler, chairman of the House Committee on Banking and Currency said today that prompt and earnest efforts would be made to secure early consideration of the bill for the reform of the currency which his committee framed last session but which failed of consideration in the House. Everything points to a lively and active session and it is reasonable to assume that Washington will be a center of interest throughout the winter.

How to Prevent Croup.

It will be good news to the mothers of small children to learn that croup can be prevented. The first sign of croup is hoarseness. A day or two before the attack the child becomes hoarse. This is soon followed by a peculiar rough cough. Give Chamberlain's Cough Remedy freely as soon as the child becomes hoarse, or even after the rough cough appears, and it will dispel all symptoms of croup. In this way all danger and anxiety may be avoided. This remedy is used by many thousands of mothers and has never been known to fail. It is, in fact, the only remedy that can always be depended upon and that is pleasant and safe to take. For sale by F. C. Duke.

MONEY IN FARMING.

Why Many Farmers Are Not Successful. The Whole Truth of the Matter in a Nut Shell.

Now that the present crop is about harvested the question is what will the farmer do from now till time to start another crop? Some will find it tiring to do except to ride about, go to town every day or so, hunt, sit by the fire and take it easy. Others have pawns and will be just as busy 'till next spring as they have been during the past working and harvesting season. A letter from the Hon. J. Davis Garter, published in the Kingstree Record of last week affords us the basis for the short dissertation above, and we reproduce a portion of his letter as it strikes us as being one of the secrets of success on the farm. It is as follows:

"Now, Mr. Editor, I want to say this. Farming has been considered by many to be unprofitable, but I have always made a profit from it; and I think the biggest mistake made by farmers is that they try to make a crop before their lands are in condition for it. Before a planter should make much of an outlay in the way of fertilizing he should thoroughly drain his land, then stump it, and may word for it, the yield will be doubled. Why it's surprising how much better condition your plow team will keep in during work season when the stumps are out of the land, also there is quite a saving in the breakage of plows, chains, &c. Besides you have all the light wood you need (of the very best quality) to burn during the winter, and in addition to all this you destroy that pest so much complained of, the ground mole.

Now, Mr. Editor, away with that notion that farming doesn't pay! I have made between 400 and 500 per cent. on my investment this year and am planning to beat that next year."

It will be noted that good drainage and stump removing are the first steps, then proper fertilizing. Can the farmer who wastes his time during the winter months while his fields are full of ponds and stumps expect the best results?—Manning Farmer.

GOOD REPORT FROM WEBSTER

Cotton About All Picked—Good Crop of Corn—Grain Being Sown.

MR. EDITOR:—Sunday, Nov. 30, was a rainy day indeed. All were disappointed as to the plans that were to be carried out at the various churches. It seems that the real winter season has begun.

The people in general are better prepared for winter than they were one year ago. All are about through picking, ginning and selling cotton, and the attention of the farmers is turned to sowing grain, a move in the right direction.

Schools here and there are open, and as they should be well attended. It shows that a better condition exists and the people are anxious to utilize the opportunity at hand.

There is less changing places, moving, than usual which is a sign of content and prosperity bearing in mind the fate of the rolling stone.

There has been a good supply of corn gathered and as far as can be learned accounts have been balanced and in many cases there is yet a remnant of cotton on hand. Generally speaking the prospects are better and all are in better condition than was at one time expected.

We are all glad to see THE TIMES as it makes its weekly visits. It does not get here till Monday but it is more than welcome when it comes.

It is commendable that a "dead line" has been established at the depot. Real passengers may now see a season of rest or car pass and repose unmolested by the habitual loitering, unnecessary crowd which gather at train times. It has been more than a nuisance. I, as one, second the motion voicing the sentiment of others who have experienced a similar hindrance there. Should unnecessary street loitering receive a similar dose another common eyesore would in a measure be removed. Guess we will see an ordinance to that effect in the future.

Respectfully,
B. FRANK FOSTER, JR.

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